

Dear Mr. Katz,

7/6/94

Your mother was correct and in part you are not. Not in criticizing those who you say act as Oswald's defense counsel. The Commission's untenable Report was an indictment and a conviction without trial. How can one address the indictment without acting as defense counsel even when, as with me, that was not my purpose?

I'm surprised that you say the case against Oswald is clear and convincing. If your knowledge for your analysis is limited to the Report, on a careful reading of it alone your conclusion is not possible. And if you had a good grasp of what is in the 26 volumes you see clearly that there really was no actual case against him.

I do not think it is possible to make any dependable analysis from the Z film alone, not even of the number of shots fired and which hit which victim.

You apply Holmes more broadly than I think Doyle intended,

It is not merely improbable that the Report cannot be trusted, is radically wrong.

It is not merely improbable that there is ~~no solid~~ ^{no solid} case against Oswald.

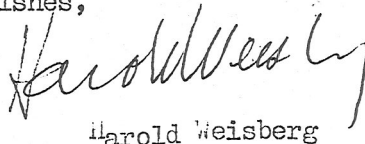
It is not merely improbable that the government was dishonest.

You make conclusions without an adequate factual base, I fear.

And I suggest it is not really a proper analysis to conjecture about the number of shots fired. Nor is that significant.

The Commission's own evidence, suppressed from its Report, is that the best shots in the country, all NRA Masters, could not duplicate the shooting attributed to Oswald even after all that could be done to the rifle was done to it and under vastly improved conditions. This is one of the innumerable bases for knowing that there had been a conspiracy. It does not tell us who conspired, of course. But once you know this and recognize that there is no way of knowing who shot or how many there were, what is the point of trying to count shots?

Best wishes,



Harold Weisberg